Commercial Crops in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

3551. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to raise commercial crops in Andaman and Nicobar Islands;

(b) if so, names of the crops to be raised there; and

(c) what progress has been made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Cost of Major Irrigation Projects in Andhra Pradesh

3552. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the total investment on major irrigation projects in Andhra Pradesh and the average yearly expenditure incurred on their maintenance during the Seventh Plan period; and

(b) what are the details of the benefits achieved therefrom annually?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) Against an outlay of Rs. 892.1 crores for major projects in Andhra Pradesh, the anticipated expenditure at the end of VII Plan is about Rs. 1127.31 crores. The average yearly expenditure on the maintenance of the major and medium projects during VII Plan was about Rs. 16 crores.

(b) The irrigation potential created by major projects during the VII Plan period in the State was as under :—

1985-86 (Actual)	38.68 th. ha.
1986-87 (Actual)	19.81 th. ha.
1987-88 (Actual)	9.19 th. ha.
1988-89 (Actual)	0.92 th. ha.
1989-90 (Anticipated)	32.64 th. ha.
TOTAL during VIIth Plan (Anticipated) . :	101.24 th. ha.

मृदु पेयों के विक्रय मूल्य पर सरकार का नियंत्रण

3553. **डा. अवेरार अहमद खान** : क्या खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या बाजार में मृदु पेयों के विक्रय मूल्य पर सरकार का कोई नियंत्रण है; यदि हां, तो सरकार द्वारा विभिन्न किस्मों के शीतल पेयों का कितना-कितना मूल्य निर्धारित किया गया है ?

वस्त्र मंत्री साथ में खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग मंत्रालय का अतिरिक्त प्रभार (श्री शरद यादव) : मृदु पेयों के विक्रय मूल्य पर सरकार का नियंत्रण नहीं है ।

Stagnation in promotion to Group 'C' and 'D' posts

@3553-A. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI : KUMARI ALIA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an acute stagnation in promotions in Group 'C' and 'D' posts in Ministries/Departments of the Central Government;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to give automatic promotion in Group 'C' and 'D' posts after a specific period; and

@Previously unstarred Question No. 3058, transferred from 4th Sept, 1990.

(c) if so, the details thereof and by when it is likely to be introduced?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI) : (a) to (c) There are some cadres in Group 'C' and 'D' posts without promotional avenues or with inadequate promotional prospects. Government are considering a scheme for providing one-time promotion in the service career of all such employees. Final decision in this regard is likely to be taken soon.

Deposit of Public Provident Funds in the SBI

*3553-B. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) What are the rules with regard to maintaining Public Provident Fund Accounts in the State Bank of India by individuals;

(b) What are the provisions in the said rules regarding refund/withdrawal of money deposited under Public Provident Fund Accounts by the payees; and

(c) Whether Government propose to liberalise the present refund/withdrawal rules to encourage more depositors in Public Provident Funds Accounts since the present rules do not permit easy withdrawals/refunds of the moneys deposited?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI) : (a) Any individual may on his own behalf or on behalf of minor of whom he is the guardian, subscribe to the Public Provident Fund any amount not less than Rs. 100/- and not more than Rs. 60,000/- in a year. An individual may also subscribe to the fund on behalf of a Hindu Undivided Family.

(b) Any time after the expiry of 5 years from the end of the year, in which the initial subscription was made, account holder may, if he so desires, withdraw from the balance to his credit an amount not exceeding 50% of the amount that stood to his credit at the end of the 4th year immediately preceding the year of withdrawal or at the end of the preceding year, whichever is lower, less the amount of loan, if any, drawn by him, which remains to be repaid, provided that not more than one withdrawal shall be permissible during any one year :

Nothwithsanding the above provision, any time after the expiry of 15 years from the end of the year in which the initial subscription was made by him, account holder may, if he so desires, withdraw the entire balance standing to his credit.

(c) At present there is no proposal.

*Previously Unstarred Question No. 3572 transferred from 7th September, 1990.

Announcement by the Chairman Reg. Constitution of a Joint Sub-Committee to consider telecast of Parliament Proceedings

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have to inform Members that I have received a communication from the Speaker, Lok Sabha regarding the constitution of a Joint Sub-Committee of the General Purposes Committee of both the Houses on 'Telecasting of the Proceedings of the Houses' to consider the desirability, technological feasibility and cost involved for making provision for telecasting the proceedings of both the Houses. The Joint Sub-Committee will consist of nine Members including three Members of the General Purposes Committee of the Rajya Sabha.

I have nominated Shri P. Shiv Shanker, Dr. Bapu Kaldate and Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. Members of the General Purposes Committee to the Joint Sub-Committee of the General Purposes Committees of both the Houses.

Reg. the matter relating to high judicial appointments

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, on a discussion in this House, an issue came up for placing certain files in your Chamber regarding high judicial appointments. Sir, when I came